

Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

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R 150922Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASH DC 5824

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

CINCPAC

USSAG/JCRC NKP THAI

USDAO SGN RVN

JCRC-L SGN RVN

CHUSDEL/FPJMT SGN RVN

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI, PINS, VS

SUBJECT: GVN PUBLIC COMMENT ON NEW PRG DEMANDS ON P & I

RVN TPJMC DELEGATION STATEMENT (RELEASED IN VIETNAMESE EVENING JUNE 14 AND IN ENGLISH AT REGULAR GVN MORNING PRESS BRIEFING JUNE 15) ACCURATELY REFLECTS VERBAL DESCRIPTION OF JUNE 14 SESSION PROVIDED EMBOFFS BY RVN CHIEF DELEGATE, B/GEN HIEP. STATEMENT (TEXT BELOW) ELABORATES ON HIEP'S REACTION TO PRG DRAFT AGREEMENT (SAIGON 7910) WHILE UNDERPLAYING HIEP'S EFFORT TO MOVE TPJMC ON TO DISCUSSION OF IMPORTANT ISSUES. IN EFFORT TO BE CONCILIATORY AND ELICIT POSITIVE PRG RESPONSE. HIEP PLACED HIS ATTEMPT TO DISCUSS THE CEASEFIRE AND FURTHER PRISONER RELEASES IN CONTEXT OF RVN RESPONSE TO TWO OF PRG'S SIX-POINTS WHICH ARE APPROPRIATE FOR DISCUSSION IN TPJMC RATHER THAN IN PARIS. HE SUGGESTED THAT HIS JANUARY FOUR-POINT CEASEFIRE PROPOSAL AND HIS MARCH TWO-PHASE (TWO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MONTH) PRISONER RELEASE PROPOSAL COULD BE BASIS FOR FURTHER

DISCUSSION OF PRG POINTS AND REQUESTED PRG REVIEW THESE PROPOSALS AND COMMENT ON THEM. PRG TURNED ASIDE THIS INITIATIVE AND INSISTED SOLE TOPIC OF DISCUSSION MUST BE P & I.

BEGIN TEXT

... AS THE HOST, THE CHIEF OF THE RVN MILITARY DELEGATION SAID HE WAS PREPARED TO TAKE UNDER CONSIDERATION, IN ORDER TO SHOW HIS GOODWILL, THE OTHER SIDE'S PROPOSAL REGARDING THE IMMUNITIES AND PRIVILEGES, BUT HE ALSO CONFIRMED THAT THE INITIATIVE MADE BY THE RVN MILITARY DELEGATION ON 7 JUNE 1974 HAD ALREADY FULLY ENSURED THE PREROGATIVES ACCORDED A MILITARY DELEGATION, IN CONFORMITY WITH THE SPIRIT OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT, THE ASSOCIATED PROTOCOLS AND THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE OF 13 JUNE 1973. THE CHIEF OF THE RVN MILITARY DELEGATION ADDED THAT THE COMMUNIST DELEGATIONS ARE PRESENTLY ENJOYING ALL THE PREROGATIVES SIMILAR TO THE ONES EXISTING BEFORE 16 APRIL 1974; THEREFORE THE NORMAL ACTIVITIES OF THE JMC MUST BE RESTORED FULLY AND AMONG THEM, THE RESUMPTION OF THE TPJMC DELEGATION CHIEF SESSIONS, SUB-COMMISSION SESSIONS AND FOUR PARTY JMT SESSIONS. IN THAT SPIRIT, THE RVN MILITARY DELEGATION PROPOSED THAT THE OTHER SIDE DISCUSS THE ISSUES OF THE RETURN AND THE CEASEFIRE, WHICH ARE THE MOST URGENT PROBLEMS AND THE MAJOR OBLIGATIONS OF THE TWO PARTY JMC WHEREAS THE QUESTIONS REGARDING THE IMMUNITIES AND PRIVILEGES ASKED BY THE OTHER SIDE ARE ONLY MINOR ISSUES WHICH MAY BE RESOLVED AT THE SUB-COMMISSION ON PROCEDURES.

THE COMMUNIST SIDE ON THE CONTRARY CONTENDED THAT IT HAS NOT YET BEEN FULLY ACCORDED THE PREROGATIVES. IT ASKED THE RVN TO SIGN A DOCUMENT CERTIFYING THAT THE FORMER IS ACCORDED ADDITIONAL PREROGATIVES SIMILAR TO THOSE ENJOYED BY A DIPLOMATIC DELEGATION AND IT CONSIDERED THIS AS A PREREQUISITE FOR THE RESUMPTION OF DELEGATION CHIEF AS WELL AS SUB-COMMISSION SESSIONS.

THE COMMUNISTS' DEMAND TO BE ACCORDED OTHER PRIVILEGES IN ADDITION TO THE 11 POINTS OF IMMUNITIES AND PRIVILEGES STIPULATED IN THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE OF 13 JUNE 1973 IS COMPLETELY ILLOGICAL, AT VARIANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL LAW AND NORMAL DIPLOMATIC PRACTICES AND RUNS COUNTER TO THE SPIRIT OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT, THE PROTOCOLS AND THE 13 JUNE 1973 JOINT COMMUNIQUE. FOR THAT REASON, THE CHIEF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF THE RVN MILITARY DELEGATION REJECTED IT ON PRINCIPLE. HOWEVER, CONSISTENT WITH ITS TRADITIONAL GOODWILL AND WITH THE INITIATIVE OF 7 JUNE 1974, THE RVN MILITARY DELEGATION WILL STUDY THE COMMUNIST PROPOSAL.

SUBSEQUENTLY, THE CHIEF OF THE RVN MILITARY DELEGATION PROPOSED TO THE COMMUNISTS TO DEAL WITH THE CEASEFIRE AND THE RETURN, SOME OF THE MAIN TASKS OF THE TWO PARTY JMC. THE RVN MILITARY DELE-

GATION POINTED OUT THAT THE PRESENT CRITICAL SITUATION ON THE BATTLE-FIELDS IS DUE TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THE NVN COMMUNISTS AND THE VC, ESPECIALLY THEIR ENCROACHMENT OPERATIONS, CONDUCTED BY REGIMENT AND DIVISION-SIZE UNITS SUPPORTED BY ARMOR, IN BEN CAT, RACH BAP, AN DIEN, BASE 82, ETC. . AND MOST OF ALL BY THEIR RANDOM SHELLINGS AGAINST THE CIVILIAN POPULATION LIKE THE ONES IN CAI LAY AND SONG PHU NOT LONG AGO AND MOST RECENTLY THE ONE IN BIEN HOA, WHICH CAUSED SUBSTANTIAL LOSSES IN LIVES AND PROPERTIES TO THE POPULATION, ALTHOUGH THESE ISSUES ARE URGENT, HUMANITARIAN AND FALL UNDER THE STIPULATIONS OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT, THE PROTOCOLS AND THE 13 JUNE 1973 JOINT COMMUNIQUE, THE COMMUNIST SIDE AT THIS SESSION STILL CLUNG TO ITS OBDURATE POSITION AND REFUSED TO DISCUSS AND OTHER ISSUE EXCEPT ITS DEMANDS FOR ADDITIONAL PREROGATIVES

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